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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Taniguchi et al.
Serial No. : 09/675,074 10-037-011
Filed : September 28, 2000
Title : Optical Pickup Device with a Plurality of Laser Couplers
Group Unit : 2651
Examiner : Nabil Hindi
Docket No. : 09792909-4642

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO-1449 form, copies of which are enclosed herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

I. SUBMITTED UNITED STATES PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
		NONE	

II. SUBMITTED FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
AL	0545905	Europe	June 9, 1993
AM	0372365	Europe	June 13, 1990
AN	0550036	Europe	July 7, 1993
AO	02192044	Japan	July 27, 1990
AP	01154326	Japan	July 16, 1989


III. OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

None

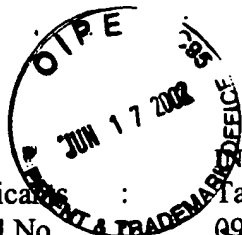
REMARKS

References AL, AM, AN, AO and AP were cited in a European Patent Office Search Report of April 23, 2002 in counterpart European Application No. 9710831912210. A copy of the Search Report is submitted herewith.

Submitted by,

 (Reg. 42,928)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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HON. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)

☐ After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

☐ Payment for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or

☐ The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)

☐ After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.

☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover any required fee is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.*

Very respectfully,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

By , Reg. 42,928

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington D.C. on June 7, 2002.

Anna Franz
Anna M. Franz

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